

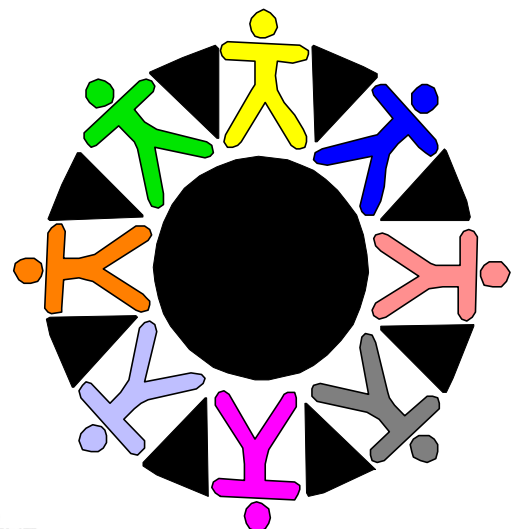
# **Health Profile 2005**

## **Petersburg, Virginia**



### **Crater Health District**

Helping Build  
Healthy Communities



# ***Health Profile 2005 - Petersburg, Virginia***

A Report on Community Health Indicators for  
The Calendar Years 1996-2003

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## Sources

Hospital Discharge Data and Information  
Virginia Health Information, Inc. (VHI)

Birth and Mortality Data and Information  
Virginia Center for Health Statistics

HIV /AIDS, and other STDs Data  
Division of HIV/STD  
Virginia Department of Health

Population Data  
U.S. Census Bureau

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### An important note regarding rates

Many of the reported occurrences for each locality are less than 20. Because rates based on numbers this size can create a false impression, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend not calculating incidence rates for fewer than 20 occurrences. To ensure a better understanding of this information, the raw numbers for each locality should be considered.

## ***Population Profile***

| <b>Demographics</b>           | <b>Petersburg</b> | <b>Virginia</b> |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| <b>2003 Total Population*</b> | 32,000            | 7,364,600       |
| <b>Male</b>                   | 45.7%             | 49.0%           |
| <b>Female</b>                 | 54.3%             | 51.0%           |
| <b>Race</b>                   |                   |                 |
| <b>Black</b>                  | 79.0%             | 19.6%           |
| <b>White</b>                  | 18.5%             | 72.3%           |
| <b>Hispanic</b>               | 1.4%              | 4.7%            |
| <b>Other</b>                  | 1.1%              | 3.4%            |
| <b>Age</b>                    |                   |                 |
| <b>Median Age</b>             | 36.9 years        | 35.7 years      |
| <b>65 years and over</b>      | 15.6%             | 11.2%           |

\*Estimated population- Weldon Cooper Center, University of Virginia

| <b>Economics</b>                               | <b>Petersburg</b> | <b>Virginia</b> |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Median Family Income</b>                    | \$33,955          | \$54,169        |
| <b>Percent of Families Below Poverty Level</b> | 16.7%             | 7.0%            |
| <b>Unemployment Rate*</b>                      | 8.7%              | 3.0%            |

\*December 2004, Virginia Employment Commission

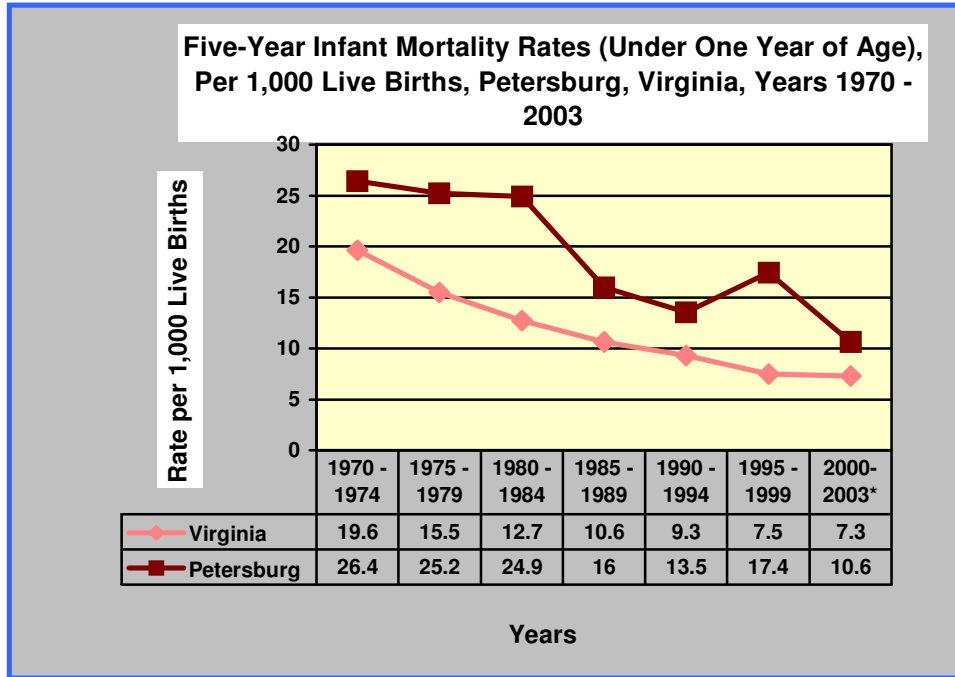
Petersburg ranks below the state levels in several economic and social indicators.

| <b>Education (population 25 years and older)</b>             | <b>Petersburg</b> | <b>Virginia</b> |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Less than 9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>                        | 12.4%             | 7.2%            |
| <b>High School Graduate (includes equivalency) or Higher</b> | 68.6%             | 81.5%           |
| <b>Bachelor's Degree or Higher</b>                           | 14.8%             | 29.5%           |

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census 2000

Education and income levels are often related to the health of communities. Overall, the less education a person has, the less likely they are to seek medical care and to make healthy lifestyle choices.

## Infant Mortality



\*4 year period

The Petersburg infant death rate has declined steadily since the 1970's. In 2003, there were 8 infant deaths - for a rate of 14.7 per 1,000 live births.

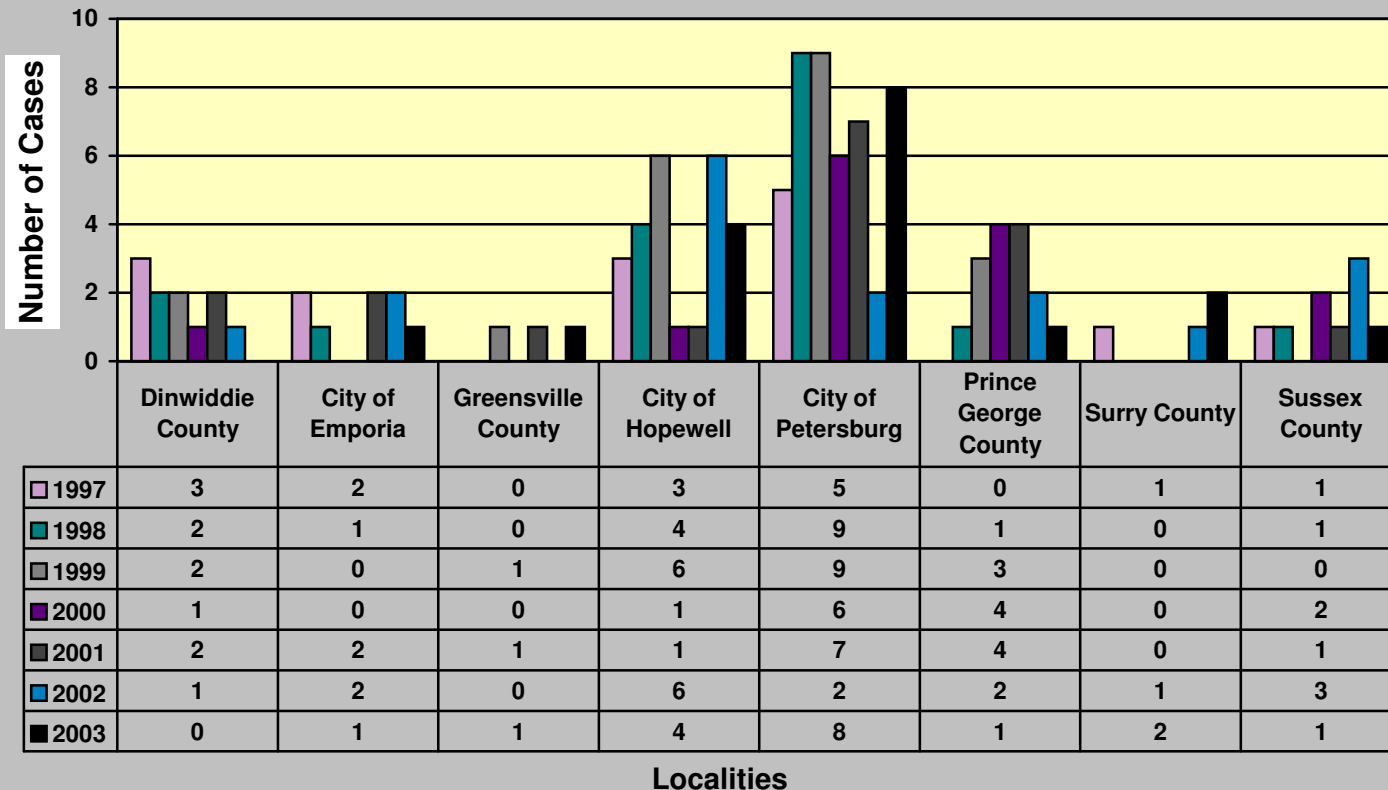
The U.S. infant death rate in 2001 (the most recent year for which national data is available) was 6.9 per 1,000 live births.

### Infant Mortality - Year 2003 - Ranked by Rates-Highest to Lowest

| Locality               | Cases | Rate / 1,000 Live Births |
|------------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| Surry County           | 2     | 28.2                     |
| Emporia                | 1     | 16.4                     |
| Petersburg             | 8     | 14.7                     |
| Hopewell               | 4     | 11.8                     |
| Sussex County          | 1     | 8.8                      |
| Greensville County     | 1     | 7.9                      |
| Prince George County   | 1     | 2.6                      |
| Dinwiddie County       | 0     | 0.0                      |
| Crater Health District | 18    | 9.6                      |
| Virginia               | 766   | 7.6                      |

# Infant Mortality

Infant Deaths (Under One Year of Age)  
Number of Cases in the Crater Health District 1997-2003

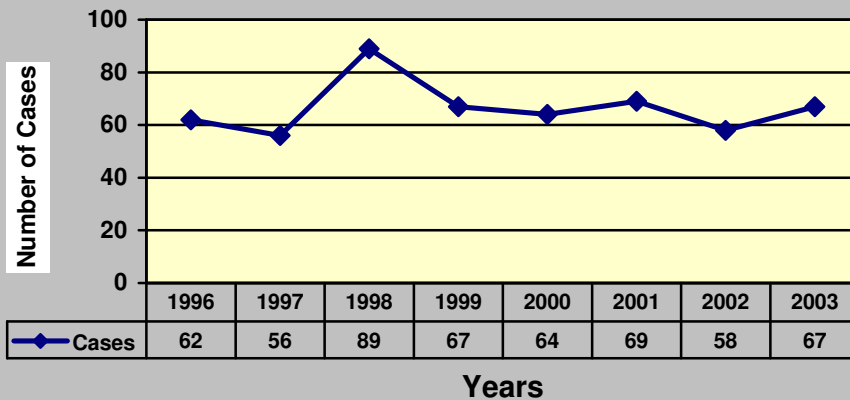


Petersburg recorded 46 infant deaths from 1997 to 2003 (the most in the Crater District).

**Infant mortality, or the death of a child before his or her first birthday, is associated with a variety of factors such as the health of the mother, access to medical care, and socioeconomic conditions. Some ways to prevent infant deaths include: women in their reproductive years (including those who are pregnant or between pregnancies) eating a folate-rich diet; making sure infants sleep on their back; and reducing stress at home and work.**

## Low Weight Births

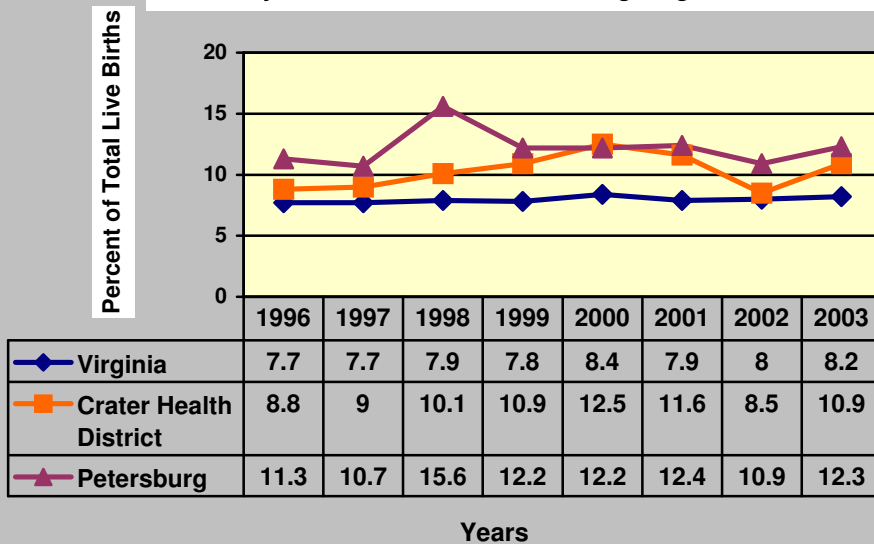
Low Weight Live Births (under 5.5 lb.), Number of Cases in Petersburg, Virginia, 1996-2003



Except for 1998, the number of low weight births to Petersburg residents has remained about the same for the past eight years.

In 2003, low birthweight babies made up 12.3 percent of all live births to Petersburg residents; while in Virginia as a whole, the percentage was 8.2.

Low Weight Live Births (Under 2500 Grams), Percent of Total Live Births by Place of Residence, Petersburg, Virginia, 1996-2003



In 2001 (the most recent year for which national data is available), 6.7 percent of U.S. live births were under 2500 grams, or about 5.5 pounds.

Low-birthweight babies have a higher risk of getting sick and dying during infancy and childhood. Women who smoke, drink alcohol, and use drugs while pregnant, and who don't get adequate medical care are at risk of having a low birthweight baby.

## Low Weight Births / Infant Mortality *Crater Health District Programs*

### ***Maternal and Child Health Nutrition***

- Registered Dietician is available for counseling at the Petersburg Health Department maternity clinic. Call for times.
- R.D. counsels all prenatal clients attending maternity clinic about the importance of healthy eating during pregnancy.
- Pregnant women who are overweight or underweight and/or have inadequate weight gain are targeted for intensive nutritional counseling and follow up on a more frequent basis.

### ***Women, Infants, and Children Supplemental Feeding Program***

- Provides supplemental food to children from birth to age 5 years and to pregnant and breast-feeding women.
- Eligibility is based on financial need as well as medical and/or nutritional need.

### ***Loving Steps- Healthy Start Initiative***

- Healthy Start is a nutrition focused intervention program for pregnant women in high-risk categories.
- The Healthy Start nutritionist provides one on one counseling in the health department clinic or at the client's home.

### ***Petersburg Health Department***

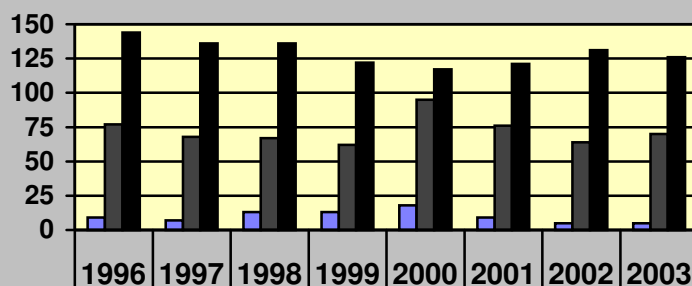
- Provides comprehensive prenatal care including periodic physical exams, lab testing, assessment of weight and blood pressure, and nutritional counseling.



## Teen Pregnancy

**Teen Pregnancy Cases, Petersburg, Virginia,  
Years 1996-2003 (Ages 10 -19)**

Number of Teen Pregnancies



|            |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| ages 10-14 | 9   | 7   | 13  | 13  | 18  | 9   | 5   | 5   |
| ages 15-17 | 77  | 68  | 67  | 62  | 95  | 76  | 64  | 70  |
| ages 18-19 | 144 | 136 | 136 | 122 | 117 | 121 | 131 | 126 |

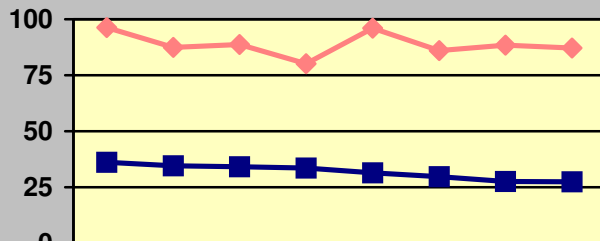
Years

The total number of teen pregnancies to Petersburg residents decreased from 230 in 1996 to 201 in 2003. Pregnancies among 15 to 17 year olds decreased from 95 in 2000 to 70 in 2003.

Between 1996 and 2003, Petersburg's total teen pregnancy rate was approximately 2.5 to 3 times higher than Virginia's. In 2003, Petersburg had the highest rate in Virginia.

**Teen Pregnancy Rates, Petersburg, Virginia  
Years 1996-2003 (Ages 10-19)**

Cases per 1,000 Female  
Population - Ages 10-19



|            |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Petersburg | 96.3 | 87.5 | 88.7 | 80.2 | 96   | 86   | 88.4 | 87.1 |
| Virginia   | 36.2 | 34.6 | 34.1 | 33.6 | 31.5 | 29.7 | 27.6 | 27.4 |

Years

Pregnant teens often do not get adequate medical care, which can result in health problems for themselves and their babies. Babies born to teen mothers are at high risk for having a low birth weight and being victims of abuse and neglect.

***Crater Health District - Teen Pregnancy –  
Year 2003***

***Ranked by Rates- Highest to Lowest***

| <b>Locality</b>               | <b>Cases</b>  | <b>Rate / 1,000 Females Age<br/>10-19</b> |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---|
| <b>Petersburg</b>             | <b>201</b>    | <b>87.1</b>                               |
| <b>Hopewell</b>               | <b>95</b>     | <b>61.6</b>                               |
| <b>Emporia</b>                | <b>23</b>     | <b>56.4</b>                               |
| <b>Sussex County</b>          | <b>27</b>     | <b>41.9</b>                               |
| <b>Dinwiddie County</b>       | <b>43</b>     | <b>25.3</b>                               |
| <b>Greensville County</b>     | <b>14</b>     | <b>23.2</b>                               |
| <b>Prince George County</b>   | <b>58</b>     | <b>21.3</b>                               |
| <b>Surry County</b>           | <b>10</b>     | <b>19.2</b>                               |
| <b>Crater Health District</b> | <b>471</b>    | <b>45.0</b>                               |
| <b>Virginia</b>               | <b>13,665</b> | <b>27.4</b>                               |

In 2003, Petersburg had the highest teen pregnancy rate in the Crater District and in the state overall.

## ***Teen Pregnancy***

### **Crater Health District Programs**

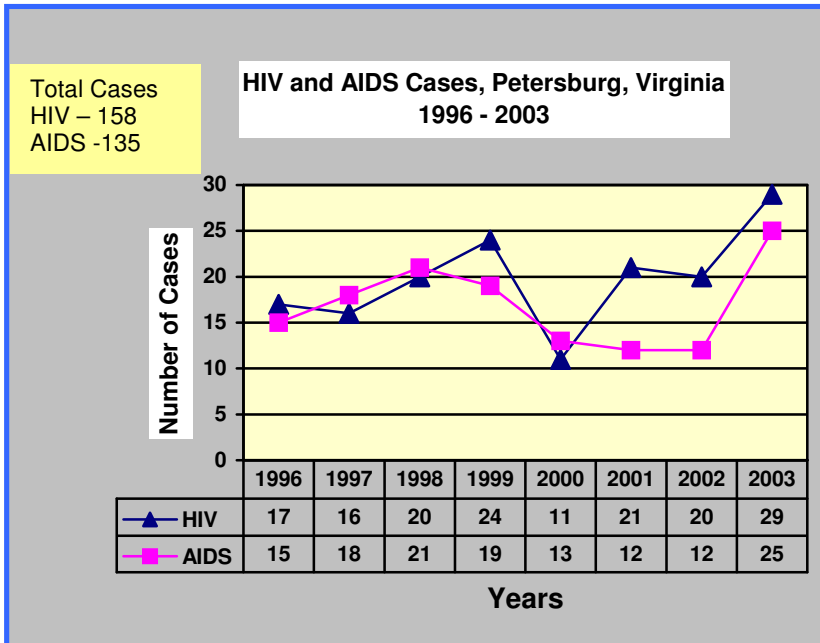
#### ***Family Planning***

- Provides physical examinations, and counseling regarding methods of birth control and sexual responsibility.
- Provides counseling to minors regarding sexual coercion, abstinence, and parental involvement in decision-making.
- Provides birth control method of choice.
- Collaborates annually with the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program and local sorority Delta Sigma Theta in sponsoring an awareness / education event at Petersburg High School.
- Services are by appointment. Charges for services are on a sliding scale fee basis. Minors (under age 18) may be eligible for free services.

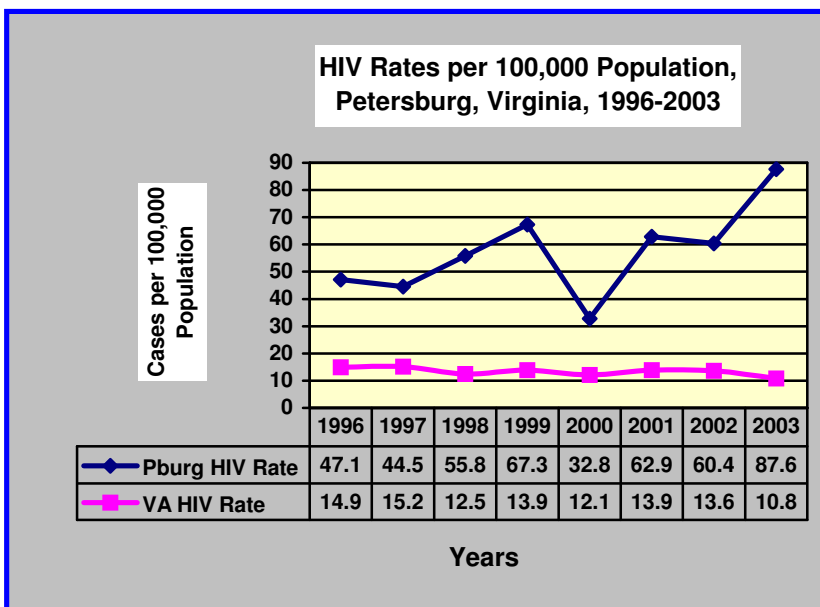
#### ***Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program***

Acts as fiscal agent for funds from Virginia Department of Health targeting programs to reduce teen pregnancy rates. Collaborates with community coalitions, agencies and groups to promote abstinence as a primary means of delayed parenthood.

## HIV and AIDS



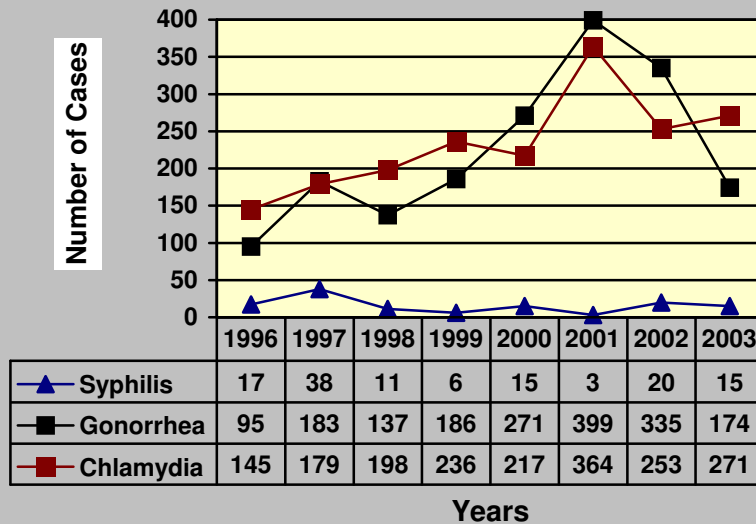
Since 1989, the highest numbers of cases of HIV/AIDS in the Crater Health District have occurred in the cities of Petersburg, Hopewell, and Emporia.



In 2003, Petersburg's HIV rate of 87.6 per 100,000 people was the highest in Virginia. Between 1996 and 2003, Petersburg's rate was 3 to 8 times higher than the state as a whole.

## Sexually Transmitted Diseases

**Sexually Transmitted Disease Cases Petersburg, Virginia, Years 1996 - 2003**



There was a significant decline in the number of reported syphilis cases in Petersburg between 1996 and 2001. However, the number of gonorrhea and chlamydia cases climbed steadily during the same period.

In 2003, the Crater Health District recorded some of the highest rates of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) in the Commonwealth. Of the 35 health districts in Virginia, Crater's rate per 100,000 people ranked in the top ten for HIV, AIDS, syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia. The table below shows the Crater District's ranking for 2003.

**STD Rates (per 100,000 people)  
Year 2003**

|           | Petersburg | Rank | VA    |
|-----------|------------|------|-------|
| HIV       | 87.6       | (1)  | 10.8  |
| AIDS      | 75.5       | (1)  | 10.7  |
| Syphilis  | 45.3       | (2)  | 7.4   |
| Gonorrhea | 525.8      | (3)  | 122.6 |
| Chlamydia | 818.9      | (2)  | 263.1 |

**Crater Health District Rankings  
Sexually Transmitted Disease Rates\*- Year 2003**

| Disease   | Rate/100,000 people | District Ranking (35 districts) |
|-----------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| HIV       | 26.5                | 6th                             |
| AIDS      | 25.8                | 4th                             |
| Syphilis  | 15.2                | 7th                             |
| Gonorrhea | 218.7               | 9th                             |
| Chlamydia | 476.6               | 8th                             |

In 2003, Petersburg reported the highest rates of HIV and AIDS in Virginia. The table above shows where Petersburg ranks for the major STDs.

## HIV, AIDS, and Other Sexually Transmitted Diseases

### ***Crater Health District Programs***

#### *Petersburg Health Department*

- Goals: To eliminate high-risk behaviors through awareness and education activities. To encourage collaboration between communities and agencies in order to provide support, resources, referrals, and information to assist individuals infected and affected by HIV and AIDS.
- Collaborates with the Minority Health Consortium, a community based organization that conducts street outreach to high-risk groups in Petersburg, and plans education and awareness activities for World AIDS Day, National HIV Testing Day, and National Black HIV Awareness Day.
- Provides free confidential HIV diagnostic testing and counseling.
- Provides diagnosis and treatment of other STDs.
- Provides education and counseling aimed at the prevention and spread of diseases.

## ***Environmental Health***

| <i>Infectious Diseases<br/>(1996-2002)</i> | <b>Cases<br/>Reported</b> |
|--|---------------------------|
| <b>E. Coli</b>                             | <b>2</b>                  |
| Salmonellosis                              | <b>75</b>                 |
| Shigellosis                                | <b>32</b>                 |

Prevention of these diseases is linked to having clean water, and proper hygiene and food handling.

**National air quality standards met by city (2003)  
(Virginia Department of Environmental Quality)**

| <b>Carbon<br/>Monoxide</b> | <b>Nitrogen<br/>Dioxide</b> | <b>Sulfur<br/>Dioxide</b> | <b>Ozone</b> | <b>Particulate<br/>Matter</b> | <b>Lead</b> |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Yes</b>                 | <b>Yes</b>                  | <b>Yes</b>                | <b>Yes</b>   | <b>Yes</b>                    | <b>Yes</b>  |

Central Virginia is designated by the Environmental Protection Agency as an area at risk for unhealthy ground-level ozone (a pollutant that forms when industrial, household, and motor vehicle emissions react with sunlight and high temperatures).

### **Lead – Elevated Levels in Children Number of Cases (1996-2003) 272**

In 2001 and 2002, Petersburg had the highest rate of childhood lead poisoning in Virginia.

Virginia law requires reporting to the health department any child age 15 years and younger, with a venous blood lead level greater than 10 micrograms per deciliter (µg/dL).

### **Rabies in Animals – Ranked by Total Confirmed Cases Highest to Lowest (1996-2003)**

|                                     |              |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| <i>Prince George County</i>         | <b>33</b>    |
| <b>Dinwiddie County</b>             | <b>23</b>    |
| <b>Sussex County</b>                | <b>18</b>    |
| <b>Greensville County / Emporia</b> | <b>17</b>    |
| <b>City of Hopewell</b>             | <b>12</b>    |
| <b>City of Petersburg</b>           | <b>9</b>     |
| <b>Surry County</b>                 | <b>6</b>     |
| <b>Crater Health District</b>       | <b>118</b>   |
| <b>Virginia</b>                     | <b>4,642</b> |

Petersburg reported four confirmed cases of animal rabies in 2003.

## *Environmental Health Services*

The Petersburg Health Department conducts regular inspections and complaint investigations of all types of food service establishments. Staff also conduct food manager certification courses and basic food safety courses.

Other important services include:

Participation in sheltering/disaster operations

West Nile virus prevention

Well and sewage disposal permits

Soil evaluations/inspections

Complaint investigations

Rabies prevention, including:

- Specimen collection for testing
- Animal bite investigations/management

Motel/hotel inspections- swimming pool inspections

Health hazard and general environmental complaint investigation

### **Major Services Provided in 2004**

#### **Food Service**

**Inspections, follow-ups, and consults- 821**

#### **Rabies Control**

**Specimen tests - 15**

**Animal bite investigations/management- 163**

**Vaccination clinics- 2**

**Other Investigations, Inspections, Follow-ups,  
and Consults**

**Motels and hotels- 37**

**Swimming pools- 9**

**Weed, trash, refuse and general- 3,304**



Leading Causes of Death  
**City of Petersburg**  
 2003

| <b>Cause</b>                      | <b>Number</b> | <b>Rate*</b> | <b>VA Rate*</b> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Heart Disease                     | 113           | 341.5        | 198.9           |
| Cancer                            | 98            | 296.2        | 185.4           |
| Stroke                            | 34            | 102.7        | 53.0            |
| Kidney Disease                    | 26            | 78.6         | 16.7            |
| Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease | 23            | 69.5         | 40.2            |
| Septicemia                        | 21            | 63.5         | 17.2            |
| Diabetes                          | 15            | 45.3         | 21.4            |
| Unintentional Injury              | 15            | 45.3         | 34.6            |
| Chronic Liver Disease             | 13            | 39.3         | 8.1             |
| Influenza / Pneumonia             | 12            | 36.3         | 20.8            |
| Alzheimer's                       | 10            | 30.2         | 19.8            |
| Homicide and Legal Intervention   | 6             | 18.1         | 6.2             |
| Suicide                           | 1             | 3.0          | 10.8            |

\*age adjusted rates per 100,000 population

**Heart disease and cancer were, by far, the most common causes of death in Petersburg in 2003. The risk of dying from these diseases can be lowered through lifestyle choices such as not smoking, eating fruits and vegetables, and engaging in regular physical activity.**

## Heart Disease

### Crater Health District Programs

#### **Cardiovascular Risk Reduction Program**

- Conducts cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk screenings at worksites, churches, and community events through out the city.
- Conducts an annual CVD risk assessment, screening, and follow-up counseling for employees of Brenco Industries.
- Partners with a local supermarket in providing an annual CVD risk assessment, screening, and follow-up counseling for at-risk population in a low-income target area.
- Counsels at-risk individuals regarding healthy lifestyle choices that may lower their risk of CVD.
- Provides blood pressure measurement certification courses for health care providers and volunteer BP screeners.
- Develops, implements, and monitors health “challenges” for local worksites.
- Provides weight management and “stop-smoking” classes for Petersburg City employees
- Conducts periodic CVD needs assessments.

# 16

## **Hospital Discharges** (Ambulatory Sensitive Conditions) Petersburg, Year 2000 (2003 report pending as of 12/20/04)

| <i>Condition</i>                                       | <b>Number</b> | <b>Rate*</b> | <b>VA Rate*</b> |
|--|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Psychoses  | 1173          | 3312.2       | 501.9           |
| Diabetes   | 234           | 660.8        | 123.6           |
| Asthma   | 192           | 542.2        | 157.3           |
| Hypertension   | 44            | 124.2        | 22.8            |
| Extreme Prematurity /<br>Respiratory Distress Syndrome | 9             | 25.4         | 6.5             |

\*hospital discharges per 100,000 population

### **Definitions**

**Ambulatory Sensitive Conditions**- conditions that can be prevented with consistent, available ambulatory care and good patient compliance with treatment/self-care protocols. Hospital admissions may indicate access issues (e.g. lack of insurance), or few options for service, or the presence of social issues that can influence patient adherence (e.g. homelessness, inconsistent caregivers).

**Asthma**- a chronic, potentially life-threatening disease of the lungs, most often seen in children and young adults.

**Hypertension**- also called high blood pressure, it directly increases the risk of coronary heart disease (which leads to heart attack) and stroke, especially along with other risk factors.

**Diabetes**- a disease in which the body does not produce or properly use insulin, a hormone that is needed to convert sugar, starches, and other food into energy.

**Psychoses**- any one of a number of mental disorders without a clearly defined physical cause or structural change in the brain. Characterized by abnormal and/or antisocial behavior.

## Petersburg Health Department Services

**301 Halifax Street  
Petersburg, Virginia 23803  
Telephone: (804) 863-1652 Fax: (804) 862-6126**

### **Childhood Immunizations**

- Walk-in clinics are held every Tuesday, from 1:00 to 3:30PM. There is no charge for routine childhood immunizations.
- Parent or guardian must accompany children under age 18.
- Must bring history/record of immunizations.
- Petersburg Health Department follows the schedule of immunizations recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Special school based immunization clinics are provided periodically.

### **Childhood Lead Poisoning**

- Children under six years of age who are at risk of lead poisoning are referred to their primary care provider for lead testing.
- A health educator offers case management and educational services to families of children with elevated lead levels.

### **Communicable Disease**

- Foodborne illness investigations.
- Vaccine preventable disease investigations.
- Tuberculosis screening and tuberculin skin testing.
- Tuberculosis treatment and follow-up including directly observed medication therapy in the patient's home.
- Tuberculosis contact investigations.
- Education for individuals and the community.
- Disease specific counseling.
- Community resource referrals.

## **Sexually Transmitted Disease Services (STD)**

- Medical services including diagnosis and treatment.
- Education and counseling.

## **HIV Services**

- Free confidential testing and counseling.
- Anonymous testing sites can be accessed by calling the Virginia Department of Health and AIDS Hotline at 1-800-533-4148. Free anonymous testing is available in Petersburg by appointment only (804) 732-7261.

Medication assistance for protease inhibitors, antiretrovirals, etc., is available based on eligibility criteria through the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) administered by the Virginia Department of Health.

## **Crater Child Development Clinic**

(2002 Wakefield Ave., Petersburg, VA 23805)

The Crater Child Development Clinic is operated to serve children, from birth to 21 years, suspected of having problems such as:

- Developmental delays.
- Developmental disorders associated with sensory or physical disabilities.
- Disorders of attention and hyperactivity.
- Learning problems.
- Emotional and behavioral concerns.
- Mental retardation.

Services are available by appointment (804) 862-6186.

## **Family Planning**

Provides physical examinations, counseling regarding methods of birth control, sexual responsibility, risk reduction and prevention for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and AIDS. Instruction on breast self exams. Birth control method of choice is provided. Persons under 18 may be eligible for free services.

## Environmental Health Services

Restaurant inspections and permits.

- Includes food service establishments, schools, temporary food events, child care centers, summer camps, adult homes and nursing homes.
- Complaint investigation.

Food manager certification courses.

Basic food safety courses.

Temporary and occasion cooking food safety.

Well and sewage disposal permitting.

- Permitting (Well fee - \$77.50 / Septic fee - \$112.50).
- Soil evaluations/inspection.
- Complaint investigations

Rabies prevention.

- Specimen collection for testing.
- Animal bite investigations/management.

Motel/Hotel inspections--swimming pool inspections.

- Permitting (Annual hotel/motel permit - \$40; Hotel/motel plan review - \$40)

Health Hazard and general environmental complaint investigation.

## Vital Records

Provides information and forms to utilize in securing birth certificates and establishments of paternity.

Issues death certificates for all deaths occurring in the county.

Death certificates cost **\$12** per certified copy.

Birth certificates can be obtained through the [Office of Vital Records](#) in Richmond. There is a **\$12** charge per copy.

## Health Promotion/Community Outreach

### **Cardiovascular Risk Reduction Program**

Provides health screenings (including blood pressure and cholesterol) in the community or at worksites to help assess an individual's coronary risk status. Educational programs which focus on changing lifestyle behaviors are an important component of the program.

### **Breast/Cervical Cancer Awareness Program**

- Promotion of early detection.
- Group education programs.
- Health fairs.

### **Community Activities**

- Health education/public awareness programs.
- School based health information/education programs.
- Health fairs.

### **Nursing Home Screening**

- Preadmission screening process for individuals seeking Medicaid coverage of long term care services. Requests for screenings need to be made through the Department of Social Services.
- In home assessment by a registered nurse and a social worker.
- Identification of local community resources.